
Title: Baba Yaga Boney Legs

Author: Witchcraft

In Russian folklore there are many stories of Baba Yaga, the fearsome witch with iron teeth.

She is also known as Baba Yaga Boney Legs, because, in spite of a ferocious appetite, she is as thin as a skeleton. In Russian that's: 'Baba Yaga Kostianaya Noga'.

In some stories she has two older sisters, who are also called Baba Yaga.

Her nose is so long that it rattles against the ceiling of her hut when she snores, stretched out in all directions upon her ancient brick oven.

She does not wear a hat, and has never been seen on a broomstick. She travels perched in a large mortar with her knees almost touching her chin, and pushes herself across the forest floor with a pestle.

Whenever she appears on the scene, a wild wind begins to blow, the trees around creak and groan and leaves whirl through the air. Shrieking and wailing, a host of spirits often accompany her on her way.

Being a secretive witch, she sweeps away all

traces of herself with a
broom made of Silver
Birch.

Baba Yaga lives in a hut
deep in the forest. Her
hut seems to have a
personality of its own
and can move about on
its extra-large chicken
legs. Usually the hut is
either spinning around as
it moves through the
forest or stands at rest
with its back to the
visitor. The windows of
the hut seem to serve
as eyes.

While it is spinning round,
it emits blood-curdling
screeches and will only
come to a halt, amid
much creaking and
groaning, when a secret
incantation is said.

When it stops, it turns
to face the visitor and
lowers itself down on its
chicken legs, throwing
open the door with a loud
crash.

The hut is sometimes
surrounded by a fence
made of bones, which
helps to keep out
intruders. The fence is
topped with skulls whose
blazing eye sockets
illuminate the darkness.
When a visitor enters
her hut, Baba Yaga asks
them whether they came
of their own free will, or
whether they were sent.
One answer is the right
one.

Baba Yaga rules over the
elements. Her faithful
servants are the White
Horseman, the Red
Horseman and the Black
Horseman.
When asked who these
mysterious horsemen are,

she replies:

'My Bright Dawn, my Red

Sun and my Dark

Midnight.'
